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**1974/03/14**

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

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March 14, 1974

National Security Decision Memorandum 248

TO: The Secretary of Defense  
The Director of Central Intelligence  
The Deputy Secretary of State

SUBJECT: Changes in U.S. Force Levels on Taiwan

Having reviewed the studies and recommendations developed in response to NSSM 171, the President directs the following changes in deployments and status of US forces based on Taiwan:

- withdraw one of the two F-4 squadrons by July 31, 1974, using PEACE BASKET F-5As to meet the related US obligation to replace 20 of the 48 F-5As borrowed from ROC under ENHANCE PLUS;
- withdraw the second F-4 squadron by May 30, 1975, complying with the related US obligation to provide F-5Es as replacements for 28 of the ENHANCE PLUS F-5As by using diversions of ROK earmarked F-5Es as temporary replacements until ROC co-produced F-5Es are available;
- withdraw our [REDACTED] 1.5(a)  
[REDACTED]  
on alert status on Taiwan;
- place Tainan Air Base on a caretaker basis [REDACTED] 1.5(a)  
[REDACTED] and reduce support personnel as appropriate;
- submit for Presidential review plans to reduce MAAG size, staffing, or structure in consonance with the F-5E program, and;
- submit for Presidential review any change in staffing or structure of Taiwan Defense Command.

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Partially Declassified/Released on 2-8-96  
under provisions of E.O. 12958  
by D. Van Tassel, National Security Council  
F88-1017

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To permit determination of force level changes in the intelligence and regional communications activities, the President directs that:

- The Secretary of Defense, in coordination with other agencies as appropriate, review US communications activities on Taiwan in terms of need and recommend changes in mission, manning and organization deemed necessary for greater efficiency and effectiveness.
- The Director of Central Intelligence review and assess the value of all US intelligence activities [REDACTED] and recommend changes in mission, requirements, manning and organization considered appropriate to improve efficiency and effectiveness. 1.5.01

These reviews with recommendations are to be submitted by April 15, 1974.

  
Henry A. Kissinger

cc: Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

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